



Data Points

CWHS

RESULTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S HEALTH SURVEY

Nationwide, nearly half of unintended pregnancies occur to the 10% of women who report that they do not use birth control¹. Unintended pregnancies are a serious public health problem in California. Since expanding access to family planning services may reduce the number of unintended pregnancies, California has made a commitment to provide these services, e.g., the Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment (Family PACT) program for low-income women who have no other source of health care coverage.

The 1998 California Women's Health Survey (CWHS) assessed women's access to family planning services by asking the question: **"When did you last have a visit with a health care provider to talk about or receive birth control?"** We examined access among women ages 18-44 who were at risk of unintended pregnancy (women who had a sexual partner in the previous year who were not infertile nor sterilized, and were neither pregnant nor trying to get pregnant).

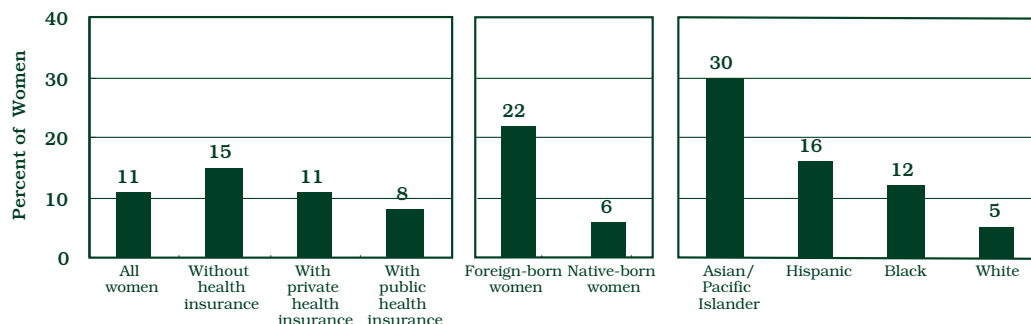
- One in ten women have never visited a health care provider to talk about family planning or to receive contraceptive services.
- Six out of ten women reported having visited a health care provider to talk about family planning or to receive contraceptives within the last year.

- Women aged 18-24 and never married women were more likely to report a visit in the past year with a health care provider to talk about or receive contraceptives than were other groups of women. Seventy-two percent of young women and 70% of never married women reported a recent visit compared with 62% of all women.
- Asian/Pacific Islander and foreign-born women were more likely to report that they have never visited a health care provider to discuss family planning services than were all women in general. Thirty percent of Asian/Pacific Islander women and 22% of foreign-born women reported they have never visited a family planning provider compared with 10% of all women.
- Women without public or private health care insurance coverage were more likely to report that they have never visited a health care provider to discuss family planning services than were women with public or private health insurance coverage. Fifteen percent of women without health insurance reported never having visited a family planning provider compared with 8% of women with public insurance and 11% of women with private insurance.

ACCESS TO FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES AMONG CALIFORNIA WOMEN AT RISK OF UNINTENDED PREGNANCY, 1998

Office of Family Planning

Percent of Women Who Have Never Visited a Health Care Provider to Discuss Family Planning or Receive Contraceptives Among Women at Risk of Unintended Pregnancy, California, 1998



Women at Risk

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